REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Second Report of the Public Accounts Committees on Uneconomic purchase of engines for Shaktiman vehicles.

Re. ATROCITIES COMMITTED ON THE TIBETAN REFUGEES

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मैडम आपकी अनुमति से मैं तिब्बती शरणार्थियों के ऊपर कल जिस तरह के... (**व्यवधान**)

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : उपसभापति महोदया, ... (**व्यवधान**) 50 हजार से अधिक लड़के परेशान है ... (**व्यवधान**)

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : ऐसी स्थिति ... (**व्यवधान**) जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी जब यहां के प्रधान मंत्री थे उन दिनों तिब्बती शरणार्थियों को भारत में जगह दी गई थी : महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से इस सरकार से कहना चाहता हूं कि मानवाधिकारों का यह हनन है क्योंकि भारत ने, भारतीय प्रधान मंत्री जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने तिब्बती शरणार्थियों को भारत में बसने की जगह दी थी ... (**व्यवधान**)

उपसभापति : प्लीज, आर्डर । ... (**व्यवधान**)

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मैं यह चाहता हूं कि उस समय को... (**व्यवधान**) जब चीनी प्रधान मंत्री यहां आए हैं तो उनसे अब भारत की मैत्री सुदृढ होगी । इसलिए शरणार्थियों के ऊपर जो लाठीचार्ज हुआ है चीनी प्रधान मंत्री की यात्रा को लेकर वह ... (**व्यवधान**) चीनी प्रधान मंत्री को आए कहें... (**व्यवधान**)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will allow you. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): Let the Home Minister come and make a statement. (*Interruptions*). Where is the Home Minister? (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't shout unnecessarily. Let me handle the House. Don't speak like this. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, you have given a direction from the Chair that during the Question Hour one of the Ministers should be present in the House to look after the parliamentary affairs. There is no Minister for Parliamentary Affairs now. What is happening to your direction?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I gave my direction, if they don't follow.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Where is the Home Minister? (*Interruptions*). It is not a question of so many Ministers. There was a definite direction from the Chair that the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs should be present in the House. (*Interruptions*). It is a directive from the Chair... (*Interruptions*)... Where is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs? ... (*Interruptions*)... Where is he? ... (*Interruptions*)... There was a directive from the Chair... (*Interruptions*) ...Madam, we want a response from the Government... (*Interruptions*) ...Mr. Shankar Dayal Singh has raised a vrey important point.. (*Interruptions*) ...We all share that concern and I want somebody from the Government to respond to it... (*Interruptions*)... We want a statement from the Government ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Seven Ministers from the Government are here.. (*Interruptions*)...

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : सात-सात मंत्री यहां है । उनको पार्लियामटरी अफेयर्स की क्यों जरूरत पड़ गई ?

SHRI YASHWANT SHINA: Where is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs? ...(*Interruptions*)... The Minister should be here... (*Interruptions*)... We want a statement from the Government... (*Interruptions*)...

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मैडम, मैं आपकी अनुमति स . (**व्यवधान**) यह हिन्दी दैनिक नवभारत टाइम्स अखबार में छपा है

उप सभापति : आप अपना अखबार जब में रखिए या अपनी टेबिल पर रखिए । यह कोई तरीका नहीं है ।

I won't allow you...(*Interruptions*)... Please put your newspaper down... (*Interruptions*) ... Whatever it is, this is not the way....(*Interruptions*).... Even if the matter is extremely serious we should follow certain procedures... (*Interruptions*)...You can express yourself, but there is a way...(*Interruptions*)...Please, as a senior Member of the House, do not do these things... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA (Bihar): Madam, atrocities have been committed against women...(*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is not here. The Home Minister is not there. But I am sure the other people from the Government, there are seven Ministers sitting here...(*Interruptions*) It is a joint responsibility and I assure the Members that they will take note of it and convey your sentiments to the Government...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, if you will recall, you had given a directive to the Treasury Benches that during the zero hour important issues are raised and there should be a Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in the House...(*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please ...(*Interruptions*)... I have got a message...(*Interruptions*)...At the moment both the Ministers are busy with the Punjab meeting and that is also important...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, there are three Ministers for Parliamentary Affairs...(*Interruptions*)...

उपसभापति : बैठिए । गुस्सा मत करिए । एक मिनिट बैठिए । आपकी जो सेंटीमेंट्स हैं, आपकी जो भावनाएं हैं वह गवर्नमेंट तक पहुंच गयी हैं । यहां इतने लोग बैठे हैं, सब मिलकर बोल देंगे और जैसे ही वह खाली होंगे, आ जाएंगे और आपकी बात सुन लेंगे ।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, we want a statement from the Government on the question of police atrocities...(*Interruptions*)... For two days, Madam Deputy Chairman, Delhi has been a city under seige. Members of Parliament have not been allowed to move around. Is this what we have come to? Is this what our democracy has come to? Is this what our civil liberties have come to?...(*Interruptions*) ...Atrocities have been committed against women. People have been dragged from houses and have been arrested.... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, this House has welcomed the visit of the Chinese Prime Minister .... (*Interruptions*)... Whenever a foreign dignitary comes to India, however important he is, should anybody lose his liberty? Why should the people of India...(*Interruptions*)... lose their rights? ... (*Interruptions*)... Should there be violation of rights... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Bihar): Madam, are we democratic today?... (*Interruptions*)..

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : मैडम, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के 50 हजार छात्रों का भविष्य अधर में लटका हुआ है...(**व्यवधान**) सौ परसेंट फीस बढ़ाकर छात्रों के साथ अन्याय कर रहे हैं और कई छात्र परेशान हैं... (**व्यवधान**)... वह कोई काम नहीं करते हैं...(**व्यवधान**)... ऐसी स्थिति में उपकुलपति को तीन महीने की तनख्वाह देकर.. (**व्यवधान**)... एक जांच समिति बिठायी जाए और छात्रों पर हो रहे अन्याय को रोका जाए । ...(**व्यवधान**)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Let the Government respond to the point which I have raised. Let one of the Ministers respond. If it is a responsible Government, let it respond now...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: What has happened in this country? What has happened to this Government? (*Interruptions*) Are we under police rule? Are we under military rule? Even the Members of Parliament are not free from the police .. (*Interruptions*)..

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : मेडम, जैसा पांडेय जी ने कहा इसमें सरकार को हस्तक्षेप करना चाहिए । यू०जी०सी० को इस संबं में डायरेक्ट करना चाहिए और . . . (व्यवधान) जो कुछ उपकुलपति ने अड़ियल रवैया अपनाया हुआ है, उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए । . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Whenever a foreign dignitary visits India, should we lose our rights as citizens?. . . (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government is reacting.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Madam, you called me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let her react on this issue. Then you can speak. You are not speaking on the same issue. You wait for one minute.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Madam, I do want to say that both the Leader of the House and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs are at the moment in the Punjab meeting and the other Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is in the Lok Sabha. You will therefor appreciate the problem that neither of them could be here today. I apologise if you are upset about that. The issue that has been raised is a matter of what happened yesterday. We have also seen the papers and I will certainly convey to the Home Minister the feelings of the House.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: This is not a question of conveying. . . (*Interruptions*).

श्री रामप्रकाश मालवीय : मेडम, यह क्या हो रहा है ? तिब्बती हमारे देश में शरणार्थी हैं । उनकी गिरफ्तारी हो रही है, उन पर लाठीचार्ज हो रहा है और अत्याचार हो रहा है । . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: What are you shouting about? . . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: May I request the Government that they must tender an unconditional apology for what had happened yesterday. . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Nobody knows what harpened? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: . . . and police officials who have indulged in such atrocities. . (*Interruptions*). Even MPs are not free from their harrassment.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I will request with Folded hands that it is not a party issue. . (*Interruptions*). It is not a party issue. Don't take it along party lines. What we are saying is that the Tibetan refugees, mostly women, have been subjcted to atrocities. For the last two days, atrocities have been committed on the tibetan refugess including women in large numbers and the Delhi police has lost all sense of proportion. This is our complaint. . . (*Interruptions*). This has been going on for the last two days. The houses of the Members of Parliament have been invaded. Women have been arrested from there. They are not doing anything . . . (*Interruptions*). A press photographer has been (*Interruptions*). How can the police in a free democratic country behave like this?. . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I congratulate the Press. . . (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Nominated): Madam, a lost of Tibetan have been arrested. . . (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your Special Mention is on the same issue. The Members who are agitated wanted the Government to respond and Smt. Margaret Alva, a senior Parliamentarian and a Member of the Council of Ministers responded on behalf of the Government. Now

[The Deputy Chairman]

you want an unconditional apology. You want a statement. Whatever action you want, let her convey it to the Minister concerned. Only he can do that. Smt. Margaret Alva is not in a position to give you the entire details But she has promised to convey it to the Government.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मेडम, मैं एक बात कहना चाहूंगा कि चीन के प्रधानमंत्री की भारत यात्रा हो रही है, उसका तो हम स्वागत करते हैं...

लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि तब्बती... (व्यवधान) का जो मामला है उसको इसके साथ नहीं जोड़ा जाए । जवाहर लाल नेहरू जब प्रधान मंत्री थे ... (व्यवधान)... उनको बुलाया था, आमंत्रित किया था और आज जब वे अपनी स्वाधीनता के लिए, मानवाधिकारों के लिए आवाज उठा रहे हैं... (व्यवधान)... मैं समझता हूं कि भारत सरकार और दिल्ली पुलिस का यह रवैया नहीं होना चाहिए ।... (व्यवधान)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After Mrs. Alva's intervention the matter is closed. Now I call Mr. Kulkarni to speak. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has come. Let him tell us when the statement will come, when the Home Minister will make the statement.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Assam): We are not safe. Madam, you are also not safe. It is a shame on this country.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Let them not defend the police. Let them invesigate. Let them apologise. Let them punish the police. The police in Delhi has brought shame to this country.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN (Madhya Pradesh): This morning I was not allowed to reach the Parliament House.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): This has been reduced to a farce. What about the privileges of Members of Parliament of this country The Members' privileges have been reduced to a farce.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): I would like to know what the point at issue right here is, because if it is a question of too much security and blocking of Members of Parliament, that is perfectly wrong and unjustified. But at the same time, let me make it clear that Tibetans are foreigners and they do not have the same rights as Indians in this country, when a visiting Prime Minister is here, to make a spectacle of it. I would advise the Government to use every force to see that they do not get away with it. (Interruptions) If they do not like it, they can go back.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: We repudiate this understanding. Atrocities against nobody should be permitted. We do not accept his point of view. This is not our point of view. There is something called humanity. If they are foreigners, should their women be whipped up and atrocities committed against them because they are foreigners? Is that our culture? (Interruptions).

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : जैसा मैंने कहा कि चीनी प्रधान मंत्री की जो यात्रा हो रही है, हम उसका समर्थन करते हैं । ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: We are opposed to the dehumanised behaviour of the police. We are not so much concerned about whether so and so is a foreigner or not. The issue is the police atrocity the police harassment, the police intimidation, has brought this country to shame.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have expressed your opinion. That matter is closed. Yes, Mr. Kulkarni. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: If my friends permit me... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't interrupt. I have given you enough time to speak. Please take your seat. You have taken twenty minutes. There are other Members also who have got some issues to raise. I think I should allow them also to say what they have to say.

श्री लाल प्रकाश मालवीय : इस पर गृह मंत्री जी वक्तव्य देंगे ? इस पर गृह मंत्री जी का वक्तव्य कब आएगा ? ...(व्यवधान)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing anybody to speak on that issue. The matter is closed. (*Interruptions*) That matter is closed. Please sit down.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA (Gujarat): I am not speaking in the way others are speaking. (*Interruption*). I don't have a loud vioce.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever the way, please take your seat.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: I should be allowed to have my say. I don't have a loud vioce. I honour your word. But allow me...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. There is no discussion before the House. You are an honourable Member. Please sit down. Please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: I do not know why you are not allowing me... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down...(*Interruptions*)...Do not argue...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: If you allow me, I will not argue...(*Interruptions*)... Then will you allow me afterwards? ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not making any commitment to you. Kindly sit down...(*Interruptions*)... Yes, Mr. Kulkarni.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Madam, I am raising a different issue and this issue concerns this country and this country's defence. Madam, I thought that the Defence Minister would be here, but he is not here.

Madam, tthere is a report in the newspapers today that Mr. Robert Gates, Director of CIA, has testified before a Congressional Committee and has expressed the view that there is a possibility of a nuclear war between Pakistan and India. Madam, we are all concerned about the nuclear holocaust being unleashed by Pakistan because the entire approach of the Pakistan is to create disturbance either through helping the terrorists or surreptitiously bringing in from Germany nuclear material for manufacturing a nuclear bomb at Kahuta.

Madam, if the House agrees and if you are convinced of the importance of the matter, you can pass on my suggestion to the Defence Minister that a statement should be made indicating whether Mr. Robert Gates, who is presently the Director of the CIA has stated this before a Congressional Committee, what its implications are and what the attitude of the Government of India is towards the evidence given by Mr. Gates before the Congressional Committee. Thank you, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will convey the sentiments of the Members to the Government.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashrta): Madam, I want to raise a very serious issue...(*Interrupttons*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is about the edible oil shortage? You are going to talk about the shortage of edible oils? ...(*Interruptions*)...There is a Special Mention by Mr. Mehta on this (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Madam, it is not about the shorttage only. Madam, the NDDB sent two containers of edible oils to Maharashtra...(*Interruptions*)...But the Gujarat Government stopped them on the way!...(*Interruptions*)... Madam, the tankers containing the edible oil were coming to Maharashtra, but they were stopped by the Gujarat Government... (*Interruptions*)...The inflow of edible oil into Maharashtra has been stopped...(*Interruptions*)... If every State starts behaving in this manner, what will happen ultimately? What will happen to the supply of oil and what will happen to the prices Therefore, Madam, .. (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mehta, now I will allow you to make your Special Mention... (Interruptions)...

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Just now? Thank you...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Madam, the Central Government sould direct all the State Governments not to stop any supply... (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Mehta, you can speak... (*Interruptions*)...On any other matter I may not allow you now, but I cannot curtail your right with regard to your Special Mention ... (*Interruptions*)..Just a minute. Yes, Mr. Hanumanthappa.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): Madam, the whole State of Karnataka is burning on an important issue. The agitation has started. A number of buses have been burnt, buildings have been damaged and the whole population of Karnataka has come out into the streets. Whatever action the Government has taken because of the notification of the Tribunal's Order on Cauvery... (*Interruptions*) People have come out on the streets and, unfortunately, the poor people, innocent people, are being harassed. So I appeal to the Prime Minister of India to intervene, call both the State Governments together, have discussions and see how best the feelings of the Karnataka people who are already under stress are assuaged and their grievances remove.

Madam, another issue which has come out on the streets is about the Doordarshan's keeping quiet; the translation or dubbing of 'Tipu Sultan' has also created a problem. Yesterday there was at procession of 50,000 people in Banglore. It has turned violent and marred the peace of the city. The whole southern part on Cauvery and Bangalore city are on fire. Tomorrow all parties have declared 'Karnataka Bandh' in the whole State. The entire traffic will come to a close. A number of buses have been burnt. And particularly our Tamilian brethren, the Tamil Nadu people, have become targets. (*Interruptions*) It is unfortunate. We do not want that to happen.

So, I appeal to the Government of India to intervene immediately in the matter. I also appeal to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry to come out with their policy. So far there was no dubbin of any film on TV serials in Karnataka It is a special case in which they hav started dubbing.

The Government of India should comt out with its opinion so that the Karnata ka people may have satisfaction and sto their agitation on both these issuet. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAM Madam, I won't take much time. (*Inte ruptions*).

Madam, I want to add one thing t what my friend has said just now abou Cauvery waters.

All along we have been appealing t the Government that there is no alterna tive but to have a settlement, amicab settlement, of the dispute through negoti tions. But our appeals to the Governmer have fallen on deaf ears. It is most un fortunate.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yester day you sought clarifications on this.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pond cherry): He is repeating what he state yesterday.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: anticipated this. (*Interruptions*)

श्री राम नरेश यादव : (उत्तर प्रदेश) महोदया, मैं एक मिनट का समय लूंगा... (व्यवधान) महोदया, जम्मू कश्मीर लिब्रेशन फ्रंट के हजारों कार्यकर्ता हथियारों से लैस होकर हमारी रेखा को पार करके भारत में घुसने की धमकी दिए हैं... (व्यवधान) वे भारत में घुसकर यहां की शांति व्यवस्था को भंग करना चाहते हैं... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : बैठ जाइए... (व्यवधान) यह कोई तरीका नहीं है । यादव जी, प्लीज बैठिए... (व्यवधान)

श्री राम नरेश यादव : महोदया, मैं चाहता हूं कि सरकार इस ओर अविलंब ध्यान दे ताकि ऐसी कोई कार्यवाही न हो सके ।

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY The people of Karnataka...(*Interruptions*) I would like the Government to start negotiations...(*Interruptions*)

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैडम, मैंने कल कहा था कि चाइनीज प्रीमियर का सम्मान हो ... **(व्यवधान)**

उपसभापति : चाइनीज प्रीमियर के सम्मान की बात खत्म हो गई... **(व्यवधान)**

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : महोदया, चाइनीज प्रीमियर का सम्मान तो हो लेकिन श्री दलाई लामा और तिब्बतियों की भावनाओं की कदर करनी चाहिए । ब्रिटिश इंडिया में अंग्रेज ल्हासा में अपनी फौज रखते थे । तिब्बत के चले जाने से भारत की सीमाओं को खतरा पैदा हुआ है । दलाई लामा और तिब्बतियों की मांग भारत के हित में है, भारत की सुरक्षा के हित में है । उन पर जो जुल्म और अत्याचार कल हुआ है, मैं उसकी घोर निंदा करता हूं । भारत सरकार के इस रवैये की, जो हमारे देश की सुरक्षा के विपरीत है, इसकी मैं घोर भर्त्सना करता हूं ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mentions—Shri Chimanbhai Mehata.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Madam. about Cauvery matter...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Cauvery is over. We moved to Tibet again. Now, let us go to Gujarat.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Cauvery is not over; it is beginning. Madam Deputy Chairman, the point is very simple. Mr. Hanumanthappa was quite right. There is a feeling in Karnataka that they will be deprived of their irrigation rights. This feeling is not correct, and the Centre should take steps to remove that fear. And also, I would urge Mr. Hanumanthappa and other Karnataka leaders not to make hot speeches. One Karnataka leader has said that Karnataka will become like Punjab. That kind of mentality is not good for national unity. And, therefore, I would urge the Centre to take immediate steps. The only solution is the linking of the Southern rivers. And for that, I have given a proopsal. I hope the Government will act soon on it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Chimanbhai Mehta.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: (Uttar Pradesh): Madam...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have taken half an hour on this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Madam, I just wanted a clarification. What will be the business of the House today after the Special Mentions? (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Banking Regulation Bill will come...

जो बिजिनेस आपको मिला है, उसके अनुसार होगा ।... **(व्यवधान)**

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Madam...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already called Mr. Chimanbhai Mehta.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Madam, only one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMTN: I am not allowing. Please take your seat.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Only one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not even half a minute. Please take your seat. Half an hour has gone. Please take your seat. I will permit you some other time, but not today because we have the Banking Bill and so many other things.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Madam, I cannot compete in throat.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know you cannot. That is my problem also. A stage is coming when I also cannot compete in throat. I have to eat every day so much of black pepper.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Madam, it is a question of unemployment...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am not allowing. I am not permitting. Please take your seat. If he speaks without my permission, it will not go on record.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: **

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vermaji, please take your seat. It is not proper. I will request the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to use some good offices to make the Members feel satisfied and not get so agitated.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): The Member is satisfied, Madam. Actually...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please put some effort to do that.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Acute scarcity of edible oils in Gujarat and the role of N.D.D.B. in that regard

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: (Gujarat): Madam Deputy Chairman, at least you have permitted me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: ...On the listed business and, therefore, I must thank you because on a preceding important matter, I wanted to say, but I could not. I could not say but the others could because they have louder voices, for they do not believe in honouring your words and because I believe in it, I suffer.

Anyway, Madam, I am coming to the main point. I am talking about high prices and scracity of edible oils. I want to say that the Government imports palmolene oil through STC at Rs. 9,950 per tonne. This oil is sold in the market at Rs. 35,000 per tonne by NDDB. Apart from oil traders, the NDDB and the Governme are mainly responsible for the high pric of edible oils. The Government charg 20 per cent customs on imported oil, per cent is edded through exim scrips, a 15 per cent on other miscellaneous e penses. And it buys from STC at I 15,000 per tonne, but sells at Rs. 35,0 per tonne. NDDB has been falsely glor fied...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Plea continue. I am hearing. Actually, it for the Minister, for the Government i hear. It is only going through me. If comes from this side, it goes that sid Please carry on.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: thought, at least, you should be attentive.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don worry. I am attentive. Please carry on

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: NDD has been falsely glorified as a marke intervention agency. It is a high profit making institution. Since the days o NDDB's coming into operation, the pric of ground nut oil has gone up. Here must say that farmers have never been commensurately benefited because the NDDB does trading through the middle elements. Finance Minister and other Ministers of the Central Government have visited Ahamedabad and Bombay and thrashed out a voluntary fixation of ceilin on the price of ground nut oil at Rs. 38 per kg. This has been flouted and as expected, because of the instinct of the traders to play up the demand and supply game, the prices are going up. Prior to it, the price of ground nut oil was ruling at Rs. 47 per kg. Now it is available in the the open black market at Rs. 50 to Rs. 65 per kg. even in Gujarat. Around 17 million tonnes of edible oil is currently the shortfall in consumption. In view of galloping inflation, Government must act on the following lines. I want to suggest some positive ways: Custom duty need not be charged on imported oil in such circumstances. Revenue augmented through custom duty is a loss through higher payment of dearness allowance. On the one

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**Not recorded.